



Director/Secretary Pat Takasugi

Pat Takasugi is serving his 10th year as director/secretary of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, re-appointed by Governor Risch in June 2006. Pat is a grower/shipper and continues to farm over 1,300 irrigated row crop acres of alfalfa seed, onions, wheat, pea seed, and garden bean seed on fields near Wilder and Homedale. Pat is a 56-year resident of Idaho and a 30-year third generation farmer. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Albertson's College of Idaho in 1971, Pat served five years active service and five years reserve service in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of Captain. While in active service, Pat served as a Green Beret

A-Team commander in the U.S. Special Forces, 10th Group. Pat and his wife, Suzanne, have three children; Taylor, Cole and Paige.

Present Ag Commitments

- Chairman - U.S.-Canada Working Group, advisory to U.S. Trade Representative and USDA
- Chairman - Governor's Idaho Invasive Species Council
- Co-Chair - NASDA Warehouse Task Force
- Member - USDA Agricultural Air Quality Task Force
- Member - The Farm Foundation – Executive Committee
- Member - University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Dean's Advisory Board
- Member - NASDA Board of Directors
- Member - NASDA Biotechnology Task Force
- Member - NASDA Specialty Crop Task Force

Past Ag Group Affiliations and Positions Held:

- President - National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
- President - Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA)
- President - Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA)
- President - Idaho Crop Improvement Association (ICIA)
- President - Northwest Alfalfa Seed Growers Association (2 terms)
- President - Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Growers Association (3 terms)
- President - Canyon County Farm Bureau (3 terms)
- Chairman - Idaho Alfalfa Seed Commission (IASC)

Agricultural Awards:

- Idaho Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher – 1st Place (1979)
- Idaho Jaycees Outstanding Young Farmer of Idaho – 1st Place (1981)
- Idaho Crop Improvement Association Outstanding Service Award (1991)
- Albertson College of Idaho – Distinguished Alumni Service Award (1996)
- Idaho Co-op Hall of Fame – Idaho Co-op Council (2000)
- Outstanding Republican Administrator – State GOP (2000)
- University of Idaho - Distinguished Associate Alumni Award (2003)
- Honorary FFA Membership (2004)

Objectives:

- To work with all Idaho agricultural producers in a proactive problem-solving partnership.
- To promote and educate consumers about Idaho agriculture.
- To efficiently administer the department in a business-like manner.